

INLINE AUTOMATIC/MANUAL SHIFTER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An inline automatic/manual shifter is provided with a shift lever that moves in a straight line path to select one of a shift position. Manual up-shift and down-shift switches
5 are actuated by the shift lever while in the drive position to cause an upshift or a downshift of the automatic transmission. The shift position retaining mechanism includes a detent spring engages notches in a detent plate to hold the shift lever in one of the shift positions. A drive position notch has an up-shift switch ramp surface and a down-shift switch ramp
10 surface with a center neutral drive location located between the up-shift and down-shift switch ramp surfaces. The up-shift and down-shift switch ramp surfaces are arranged such that the detent spring applies an urging force on the drive position notch to bias the detent spring and the shift lever to the center neutral drive location.

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